



Resolution on the Revision of the Land Management Plan for the Nantahala and Pisgah National Forests

WHEREAS, the United States Forest Service is in the process of revising the forest plan which includes identifying and evaluating lands that may be suitable for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System and recommending any such lands for wilderness designation; and

WHEREAS, the updated inventory for lands that may be suitable for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System consists of approximately 362,411 acres in Western North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the United States Forest Service is proposing to designate an additional 15,406 acres in Cheoah District of Graham County for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System; and

WHEREAS, the United States Forest Service closed off access to roads in Graham County once available for public use to fit the criteria of wilderness characteristics for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System; and

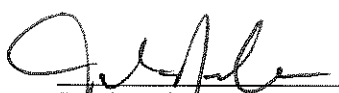
WHEREAS, Graham County is a Tier 1 County who cannot afford for the United States Forest Service to take any more additional lands to be placed in the National Wilderness Preservation System and we firmly state that we do not want any further restrictions on our lands that inhibits potential economic growth, certain types of recreation and the potential for wildlife management.

THEREFORE:

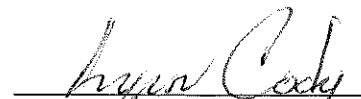
The County of Graham County, North Carolina acknowledged by their individual signatures do hereby make the following resolution:


1. The Graham County Board of Commissioners is opposed to the inclusion of any additional land in Graham County, NC, in the National Wilderness Preservation System as proposed by the United States Forest Service.
2. Graham County respectfully requests that Congress release the following designated areas from wilderness study or designated inclusion:
 - a. Joyce Kilmer Slickrock Ext. 2 (Deep Creek / Avery Creek)
 - b. Joyce Kilmer Slickrock Ext. 3 (Yellowhammer)
 - c. Joyce Kilmer Slickrock Ext. 4
 - d. Snowbird Wilderness Study Area
3. We further state that the inclusion of public and/or private lands in the National Preservation System and the regulation of that land, so as to cause a restriction of its public and/or its private enjoyment and use, is contrary to the principle of private property rights secured and protected by our Constitution.


Adopted by a unanimous vote of the Graham County Board of Commissioners on August 9, 2016


Jacob Nelms, Chairman


Keith Eller, Vice-Chairman


Lynn Cody, Member


Connie Orr, Member


Raymond Williams, Member

ATTEST: 
Kim Crisp, Clerk